

What is claimed is:

1. (original) A circular power saw (10), composed of a saw assembly (12) with a housing (14, 16) that encloses a motor and a saw blade (18) capable of being driven by the motor, whereby the saw assembly (12) is pivotably supported relative to a footplate (22) such that it can be adjusted between a minimum and maximum cutting depth, wherein the saw assembly (12) is capable of being substantially decoupled from handling forces which act on the saw blade (18)—in particularly from the handle (24)—during sawing.
2. (original) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 1, wherein the saw assembly (12) is capable of being coupled via a force-dependent coupling (44) with cutting-depth adjusting means (38, 39, 45) so that, if kickback occurs, the cutting-depth adjusting means (38, 39, 45) are automatically detachable, so that the saw assembly (12) can then move out of the way in a manner that minimizes the cutting depth.
3. (currently amended) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein it is capable of being handled and guided using only the handle (24), which is connected to the swivel arm (36) in a fixed manner.
4. (original) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 1, wherein the saw assembly (12) is supported on the swivel arm (36) such that the cutting depth is adjustable independently of the handle (24).
5. (currently amended) A circular power saw (10), composed of a saw assembly (12) with a housing (14, 16) that encloses a motor and a saw blade (18) capable of being driven by the motor, and a handle (24), whereby the saw assembly (12) is pivotably supported relative to a footplate (22) such that it can

be adjusted around an axis (20) between a minimum and maximum cutting depth, in particular according to ~~one of the Claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1, wherein each, in particular, cutting depth position of the saw assembly (12) is releasably lockable in position using an overload coupling (44), the direction of release being toward the minimum cutting depth.

6. (original) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 5, wherein the overload coupling (44) is designed as detent coupling (40, 42) and is located on the side of the protective hood (16) facing away from the axis (20).

7. (original) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 4, wherein the detent coupling (40, 42) is composed of a locking piece (40) that is grippable at the rear by a detent piece (42).

8. (original) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 6, wherein the locking piece (40) and the detent piece (42) have matching bearing surfaces (52, 54) that are capable of bearing against each other at a certain identical angle extending in the direction of the release force, whereby the angle is selected such that the locking piece (40) and the detent piece (42) automatically come apart when a certain minimum force is applied which moves the saw assembly (12) into the cutting depth position "0".

9. (original) The circular power saw as recited in Claim 4, wherein the force that releases the detent coupling (44) is defined by a lift spring (48) and a coupling spring (46), so that the release force depends on the cutting depth setting.